

A THOUSAND DOLLARS A MINUTE

To Run the Federal government in 1912—Dad Pays Taxes for Panama Canal Work, Pensions, the House and Senate and a Lot of Other Things.

The secretary of the treasury estimates that it will require \$638,000,000 of tax money to run the federal government next year. That's nearly fifteen cents a week for every man, woman and child, white, black red and Filipino. Of course in addition taxes to cover all state, county and municipal expenses must be paid by the citizens.

The head of the family who has to settle for his whole flock can figure on about 75 cents a week being held out of his pay envelope each week by Unc! Sam.

And these taxes will not be measured by what a man's wealth is but by the size of his family and the state of the family appetite. For the federal tax is laid, through the tariff, on the things we eat and drink and wear. The baby doesn't know it but her shoes and her petticoat are taxed and the steel in the wheels of the baby carriage have chipped in.

Added to the six hundred and thirty-eight millions of dollars, running expense, there will be forty-seven millions more for Panama and canal work.

Of the six hundred and thirty-eight millions of dollars about \$153,000,000 or about one-quarter will go to pay pensions—that is dad will have to pay about eighteen cents a week for the war of long ago.

The army and navy departments will take about \$282,000,000 more or nearly a half of the whole and father's weekly contribution to that fund will be about thirty-five cents.

Thus the total cost of war past, present and future as paid in pensions and army and navy expense is about two-thirds the cost of the whole show. The pensions, army and navy will cost Uncle Sam about \$1,200,000 per day or \$50,000 an hour or pretty close to a thousand dollars a minute.

There are other things money is spent for too. The house and senate cost us about thirteen million dollars a year. Unlucky figure. This isn't the money congress spends but the money it costs to pay the members and their hangers-on, including dead-ducks and \$75,000 to \$95,000 a year to Aldrich's monetary commission.

The civic list also shows that spending money to protect human life in the public health, marine hospital and life saving services and in special fights against epidemic diseases. The total spent thus is about four million two hundred thousand dollars which, you see, is not quite one cent for life saving to each dollar for war. Also it is